

Moran's Statement Opposing Passage of Majority Leader Reid's Senate Health Care Bill

HAYS - Congressman Jerry Moran today commented on H.R. 3590, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid's health care reform bill, which passed the Senate by a 60-39 vote on Christmas Eve. Moran opposes this bill.

"I am extremely disappointed that Senate Democrats have passed legislation, which will undoubtedly affect every American, based on personal handouts and political payoffs," Moran said. "Instead of working to rationally address the problems in our current health care system, Majority Leader Reid has chosen to piece together an overhaul of our entire system through sweetheart backroom deals for Senate Democrat holdouts and vote-peddling. I cannot remember a time when such a major bill has been passed through the Senate in such an unseemly and purely political manner. This is not how the Senate-'America's great deliberative body'-is supposed to do our nation's business. At a time when Congress should be working to reduce health care costs and increase accessibility for families, seniors and small businesses, I am outraged that the writing of this bill has been driven by deal-making instead of reasonable public policy.

"Majority Leader Reid was unapologetic in admitting that a number of states are treated differently than others under this bill and that his deal-making is what legislating is all about. I disagree with the Majority Leader. Cutting backroom deals that benefit Nebraska, Louisiana and Florida will heap excessive burdens and costs on Kansans. True legislating is not about satisfying narrow, political interests and handing out political favors in return for votes.

"Health care reform must make quality coverage more affordable and more accessible for Americans and allow those who like their current coverage to keep it. Unfortunately, this bill will not accomplish these objectives."

Moran is Chairman of the House Rural Health Care Coalition and co-founder of the Congressional Community Pharmacy Coalition.

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